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Newsletter

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The following are excerpts from an address given by Dr. Reginald Helfferich, general secretary for service, at the 158th annual meeting of the UCBWM, November 15, 1967.

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EYEWITNESS : ASIA

I have just come from India, Nepal, East Pakistan, Burma, Thailand, Indonesia and Hong Kong. I went on this trip for the UCBWM and for Church World Service, to ask the question "What comes next?" Especially in relation to Vietnam, if peace were to come tomorrow, or next week, or next month -- what should we do? I came back from this trip all full of hope -- all full of hope. I don't know how many times I've been around, but never have I come back as encouraged as I am this time. Maybe it's because I didn't expect to be encouraged. I'm almost happy. I'm a little less confused. And my confidence in the relevance of the Church is greatly increased.

I am encouraged about India. The National Council of Churches in India met in Assam this year - the trouble spot. The tribal people of Assam are in revolt; and Christian leaders have been blamed for the revolt, justly I suspect. The National Council of Churches this time devoted a day and a half to the study and discussion of the program of service, contrasted to five or ten minutes in the past years. It voted to change the name of the agency from CORAGS, Committee on Relief and Gift Supplies, to CASA, Christian Agency for Social Action, and the church said "this is part of our response to a clear command of the Gospel," and it's not the American Christian's duty - it's our duty. So, they made the department a full department of the National Council of Churches, and they call upon their churches to support it. They elected a strong committee to direct the program.

I'm encouraged about AFPRO, Action for Food Production, in India, in which the Roman Catholics and the Protestants are working together, and working with government officials at top and low areas, finding the joy of service with courage and love for the common good. I saw this work in Bisrampur. Lines of villagers -- hundreds -- bearing baskets of earth and stones on their heads, to build roads. They had built a great tank last year, which not only supplies water, but supplies fish, because they're filling the tank with fish. It adds to the protein of their diet. I was told by Frank Hutchison that over in the Vadala area they have up to 24,000 workers in the food-work-program. The

Indian press carried a news article, "Relief Work for over one million lax, Committee on Relief of the National Council of Churches of India," spelled out, "Helped 1,234,435 persons in Bihar and Andhra Pradesh this year in food for work projects; 19½ million pounds, via 3,577 distribution centers, working in 3,000 projects, dug 1,213 wells, 177 tanks - those are big dams to hold water - 265 miles of roads, 233 miles of embankments to hold the water." The press is giving credit to the Church.

I stopped in Nepal and was glad to see what had happened to the Jersey bulls and the chickens and the swine that we had sent there some years ago. It's a glorious thing to see -- some 16,000 offspring of the two Jersey bulls that we had sent. I was rather surprised to find that there are some 9,000 Tibetan refugees in Nepal Their situation is not very good and they pled with us to ask our people in Maine to take another couple of thousand. There's been an experiment in Maine; a number of Tibetan refugees are there now and it is turning out pretty well.

We are closing the program in West Pakistan; the Church leaders said "We'll do it ourselves." Now, that is the best kind of an answer you can get. That is success, isn't it?

We stopped in Burma and were permitted to stay 24 hours. The situation is bad in Burma and the country is poor. Everything is rationed and practically nothing is available even though rationed.

In Thailand, the Church is being forced out of its narrow shell, perhaps because our military air people are up in the North and Northwest and there is some transporation there now. And there is encouragement on the part of our chaplains for churches to send in workers.

Now let us go to Vietnam. I was scared about Vietnam. I wasn't so enthusiastic about this trip. Ken Anthony told me about things in Vietnam; I had read reports and I read the newspapers too and I see the pictures, so I was really scared. The first night, at the dining room on the top floor of the Majestic Hotel, I saw fireworks and I thought they were celebrating the inauguration. But they weren't fireworks! They were flares because there was activity right around the city of Saigon. Then came the sound; then there were bombs, mortar shells, and then airplanes. After three nights in Saigon, I went north. The first night I spent in Quang Ngai. There, the team of Vietnam Christian Services, under the leadership of our own United Church of Christ's Douglas Beane, is working. They are a wonderful group of young people. This was the day of the inauguration down in Saigon.

The following day we went north again to Quang Tri Province, west to Cam Lo and then north to Gio Linh - that's at the 17th Parallel -- that's less than two miles from McNamara's fence - the demilitarized zone. We have two workers there, two young men - one fellow is from Harleysville, Pa. His first name is Harley. These young men are laboring with great love and devotion. When we came down on the landing strip, the control tower told our pilot that they were expecting mortar fire on the air strip and so we should get out and duck for the trenches. The pilot said, "I m going to save my plane, you kids duck." The soldiers were all in the trenches, but we didn't have a chance to duck there because these two young workers grabbed hold of

us and pulled us out, and said, "We'll get away." We got into a jeep and got away. We went up north -- too close to this line. As we were talking, I heard a sudden explosion in back of me and I turned around to a 170 mm. cannon that had come up out of the ground and had lobbed a shell into the demilitarized zone. That means that we don't have any military there. But they do! Then it began. The planes came through. You could tell the napalm bombs because they made big red flames and the magnesium ones made white flames. Nobody was supposed to be there!

The boys are facing the situation with great courage. Nearby is a church they've helped build; just on the other side there is a school. They are the only workers among the refugees who found shelter there in this area. If they weren't there, no one would be there to feed the refugees; no one would be there to encourage them; and this our primary ministry among the refugees in Vietnam.

There is a home economist by the name of Margaret Faulkner. She is sponsored by the Salem United Church of Christ of Florrisant, Missouri. She is working in a cemetery in Saigon. You would have difficulty recognizing it as a cemetery because 3,000 people have squatted there. You would know it was a place of death, because there is no sewage -- not at all. The lanes between the little shacks are about two or three feet wide; precarious platforms with boards across. You have to fight as to whether the rats go across before you or whether you will go first. Is it any wonder that plague is rampant in Vietnam? Well, Margaret Faulkner is working in the center of that. Glorious!

I could tell about constant danger of attack. Our people live right among the Viet Cong. We wanted to go to a camp and there were two U.S.Aid people who joined us. They said, "You can't go that way. It is full of Viet Cong. It isn't safe." We said, "Maybe it isn't safe for you, but it is safe for us." And through we went. The others had to go 35 miles around. We haven't lost any lives in our Vietnam Christian Service, because we are there for no political reason, unless feeding a hungary child has military significance. And, if feeding a hungary child has military significance, I am for it.

It is imperative that Vietnamese social workers, agriculture experts, community development leaders and health workers be trained now so that when peace comes they will be able to help put their country together again. We cannot afford to wait until the Vietnamese War ends. No matter which side wins the war, Christians must be ready to make sure that humanity wins the peace. The real danger when peace comes is that the United States Government might pour massive amounts of money and men into the nation in an effort to rebuild it, and at the same time neglect to train local leaders who can build a strong nation. We can destroy the people by such vast influx of food and money and materials shipped into Vietnam on a short term basis. Instead of getting out and pulling themselves up by their own boot straps, the Vietnamese could be taught to sit back and think that everything would be given to them. And, that way when aid stopped, people would in reality be no better off than before.

I will now close with just one statement about Indonesia. I am encouraged there. There has been a great growth in the Church; maybe its a flareback of the Communist bloodbath; but there is a resurgence of religion -- Moslem, Hindu and Christian.

AFRICA

Church Union Consummated — The most significant development in the field of the institutional church in the work of the UCBWM in Africa centers on an event in South Africa, where after years of negotiations, the union of Congregational Churches -- the Bantu Congregational Church, the London Missionary Society, and the Congregational Union of South Africa -- was consummated on October 7, 1967 in Durban.

This union is an act of real faith and courage for it officially establishes a new multi-racial church despite the government policy which frowns on such associations.

Dr. John Reuling, UCBWM's general secretary for mission, officially represented the United Church of Christ at the Inaugual Assembly.

New Post for the Lesshaffts — A UCBWM hospital administrator, Mr. Jack S. Lesshafft, Sr. (formerly administrator for the UCBWM-related hospital in Worawora, Ghana) has become the coordinating officer for the Private Hospitals Association of Malawi. This effort, coordinated by the Christian Council of Malawi, to make better use of existing facilities and resources is an example of happy cooperation between the Roman Catholics and Protestants.

The Catholic and Protestant missions together do about half of the medical work in Malawi. The government services do the other share. The organization coordinates all medical mission endeavors and works in close cooperation with government.

Spiritual Healing — At Chikore Hospital, an 18-month experimental ministry of "spiritual healing" seems to have considerably reduced the patients' fears of the hospital experience. A sensitive African pastor, who understands the intimate link in traditional African life between bodily disease and spiritual wholeness, makes himself accessible for consultations with patients in a small building recently erected near the 36-bed hospital.

Guest Speakers — A recent letter from Mr. and Mrs. William D. Webbs of Mt. Silinda, Rhodesia included excerpts from one set of compositions of student-nurses at the hospital, where Charlotte teaches both anatomy and English.

"I can forget many things in my life but not the first day on the ward... Being a new student is a burden of sorrow, I can tell you... I was a bit afraid of a person's death, of operations in the theatre, of giving injections... After the night nurse read a report to us, we began to be busy... As I stepped into the ward, I heard people shouting "murapi" I looked up and down to see what "murapi" (nurse). Then a good-hearted nurse took me by the arm and told me that challenging student nurses was routine.

"Bed-making was different with a patient in the bed. Even patients who had been in the hospital a couple of months laughed at me... They called me to wash a patient. I tried to remember what to do. Everybody was busy with her job. I ran up and down with a dish of water and a face towel... Someone told me to powder gloves. I was uneasy for I didn't know where the powder was... I began to sing while cleaning the nursery. I was told we did not sing on duty: 'You mustn't voice anything. The sutures have not been removed from your lips.' I just looked... That day I broke three thermometers for which I had to pay... I began to see that nursing covers every possible kind of work.

"I was told to hold a patient in position in the operating theatre. I didn't remember about sterility. When I pushed the covered table aside with unsterile hands, everybody looked at me... I carried more than twenty bed pans in half an hour. There wasn't any difference between a slave and me. I was asked to wash the latrine. I looked at my hands and I looked at the brush and started washing.

A nurse must train herself to be humble.

"Before long somebody came to tell me that I would be late for class. Just as I was running, I was seen by the Sister-in-Charge, who told me I would be on punishment because of running. When I got to class the teacher told me the same thing ... so I ended the day with two punishments... I am constantly learning things that used to puzzle me. The suffering of people in hospitals set my heart on fire and captured it for nursing ... It is great happiness in a nurse's life to find somebody, who might have died at any moment, stand up and walk about."

(We have some idealistic youngsters out here too!)

The Orphanage at Mt. Silinda, Rhodesia

There are twenty-six children in the orphanage, many of them babes-in-arms. These children have become sort of a special project with some of us. Most of those old enough to walk come to Gene's Sunday school class even though they are unable to understand a word of English. It's a big occasion to have some place to go, and do they love to sing! It's a wonderful feeling to see how happy they are and to have them all come running to greet you and shake your hand whenever you go to the orphanage. They crave attention and they certainly get it from the staff.

Orphans here are a bit different from those in the States in that most of them have a father but the mother frequently had died in childbirth. We encourage the fathers to contribute to the support of these children but without much success, so they depend on us for support. It is grim news that comes to us from the Board in New York that the budget has been curtailed. We hope that this will not affect the work with the orphans.

Excerpts from a letter from Mr. and Mrs. H. Eugene Johnson, Jr. of the Willis F. Pierce Memorial Hospital, Mt. Silinda, Rhodesia.

LATIN AMERICA

For Lack of a Bridge

For lack of a single bridge a ninety kilometer trip becomes an all day journey in Central America. This statement is the sad truth which spells out some of the difficulties encountered that frustrate North Americans who are used to riding on interstate highways of four, six, and even eight lanes.

I have just been talking with a missionary who works with the Friends in Nuevo Octopeque. During the dry season of the year he is able to make the necessary trip to Chiquimula for mission conferences in short order by crossing a low, annually constructed bridge and taking a back road into Guatemala. Each year the rains come and take the bridge downstream, and the trip then extends itself to a full 460 kilometers. One bridge or the lack of it, lengthens a two and one half or three hour trip into a full day's work.

It was not many years ago when this story could have been told about any of the roads. Within an hour those roads led to mud holes twelve to eighteen inches deep and rivers which took an hour or more to cross on barges. Today bridges are an important part of the AID which is being received from North America through her government. New bridges cross the Chamelicon River in various places, and the Ulua River is spanned at Progreso by the bridge called "Democracy."

Just as the governments are involved in the building of bridges, our conversation this evening made me think of the tremendous responsibility which the world has for building bridges. We, as Christians, have an especially enormous job in the construction of bridges which lead our fellow earthdwellers to a confrontation with Jesus Christ as Lord of life. This is the exceptionally urgent job of

our church through the UCBWM.

The UCBWM is involved in the building of bridge in Honduras just as much as is the United States Government. These bridges are constructed of blocks of human lives held together by the mortar of brotherly love strengthened by the Holy Spirit.

With these essential materials the Departments of Communications and of Medical-Social Work have decided to launch a new program of bridge building in cooperation with the Evangelical and Reformed Church of Honduras in the rural communities of this northwest part of Honduras. The blueprint of the ultimate construction may be too well known and the lack of architectural imagination may ultimately hinder its actual effectivity, but the method of construction is a brand new one for Honduras.

The ultimate construction at each of the selected sites is that of the church, not in the physical sense but rather the spiritual. The blueprints are those which have been carried from Chamelicon, through San Pedro Sula, Yoro, and Las Vegas to those new areas. They are tattered and torn, but the image is still clear enough that it will not be mistaken as the project develops.

Each project will be begun by the arrival of a Caravan. This group of approximately nine persons will carry into the village experts interested in leaving more than they take out. A medical team will make up a part of the caravan. Also in the group will be an evangelist, literacy worker, literature and Bible salesman, agriculture and community development expert, and an audio-visual man. Just as each subcontractor, electrician, carpenter, mason, or roofer, has his special job to do on the site, so each of these members has his special task to perform.

The medical team has a double function to fulfill. It must spend a great majority of its time in the alleviation of pains that have disturbed the bodies of these villagers for a long time. But it must also take time out from this to show the village how to prevent a repetition of these same diseases. It must teach that God has created a good physical home for our spirit and has made us stewards and protectors of this body.

The evangelist, too, has a twofold job. He must preach the good news of the salvation available to every soul through our Lord and Savior and call for a conformity of the body to the life already given to the soul. He must also instruct in the practical ramifications of a changed life. His evening sermons must be lived daily as he visits from house to house.

The primary purpose of literacy as seen from the point of view of a new church-to-be is that of reading and understanding the Bible. Therefore, the literacy program is slanted directly toward the reading of the Bible, and the follow-up materials are written so as to prepare the new literate to have a vocabulary capable of handling the Scriptures. Of course, right along with this goes the availability of Bibles and other Christian literature which will be provided by the caravan.

These messages are always more vivid when they are visible. Therefore, it is contemplated that each caravan will be accompanied by an audio-visual specialist who will help to put these messages across in a visual manner. His work will be with films, filmstrips, flip-charts, puppets, and other educational aids.

A week of hard work by a caravan of this type is only the beginning. In order that proper nuture be given to these growing structures of communication, monthly follow-up visits must be made by the various parts of this team. The nearest pastor and congregation will have to give special attention to those projects. Continous contact will be necessary until another caravan can be organized to make a second visit about a year later.

We are in hopes that for these caravans we will be able to have the help of some of our medical and agricultural friends from the north. In this way we can help to build a second bridge at the same time. This secondary bridge is that which reaches between the church of Honduras and that of the United States.

---- Rev. & Mrs. Gustav Kuether, Honduras.

Robbins Strong Assumes New Duties

The Rev. Robbins Strong, formerly general secretary for the division of interpretation and personnel for the UCBWM has taken a new post in Geneva, Switzerland. On January 1 he joined the World Council of Churches as secretary for Joint Action for Mission, a program of the Division of World Mission and Evangelism.

Basically, Joint Action for Mission calls upon churches in specific geographic areas to jointly survey their total task, then plan the use of their total available resources and finally to utilize them together in the one mission in which they are all engaged. It is a commitment to act together to carry out the whole task of the mission of the Church.

Joint Action for Mission projects are underway in Durgapur, India; Taiwan; Victoria, Australia; Southern Iran and Columbia, Maryland. Preliminary conversations are underway in a number of other areas of the world.

In the fall of 1965 and winter of 1966, Mr. Strong served as acting director of the WCC's Division of World Mission and Evangelism for six months on loan from the UCBWM.

His wife, Mrs. Katherine Strong, was a member of the executive staff of Church Women United of the NCC. She carried responsibility for the development of understanding and action among churches and women's organizations in their relations to the world community.

Fourth Asssembly of the WCC

From July 4 to 20, 1968 Christian leaders from all over the world will gather in Uppsala, Sweden, for the most widely representative meeting in the history of the ecumenical movement.

The ancient university town of Uppsala, 41 miles northwest of Stockholm, will be the scene of the Fourth Assembly of the World Council of Churches. This is the major policy-making body of the of the World Council, which meets ever six or seven years.

The last Assembly met in New Dehli, India, in 1961. Earlier gatherings were at Evanston, Illinois (1954) and Amsterdam, the Netherlands, where the World Council was officially constituted in 1948.

Approximately 2,250 people will attend the Uppsala sessions. Almost 800 will be official delegates from the 223-member churches of the Orthodox, Protestant, Anglican and Old Catholic confessions.

More than 100 of the delegates will come from Asia, more than 80 from Africa and about 20 from Latin America. Some 40 will be Australians, while Europe will be represented by more than 300 and North America by 180. These figures reflect the numerical strength of member churches on each continent.

This will be the first Assembly for which Dr. Eugene Carson Blake is responsible. Since December 1, 1966 he has been serving as general secretary of the World Council.

Mission and Evangelism

One of the major actions of the Division of World Mission and Evangelism of the WCC in its first year under its new director, the Rev. Philip Potter, was a recommendation to establish a Christian Medical Commission. The recommendation was adopted by the Central Committee at its meeting in Heraklion, Crete in August.

A primary objective of the new commission will be to promote the more effective coordination of church-related medical programs with one another and with those of governments and other voluntary agencies. A second purpose will be to encourage further study of the nature of the Christian ministry of healing and the role of the churches in it. The commission will begin operations in mid-1968. It will be related both to the Division of World Mission and Evangelism and the Division of Inter-Church Aid, Refugee and World Service.

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UNITED STATES

Parting Words From Loy Long

On March 1, 1968 I will retire after spending exactly 37 years with the UCBWM, the successor of The American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions of the Congregational and Christian Churches, 20 of them in India and 17 in the U.S.A. For 15 years I have been Personnel Secretary of the Board, finding, screening and recommending 442 new missionaries who were appointed for service overseas. Of these 145 are still serving abroad.

Edna and I were teachers in the Kodaikanal (American) School in South India for 1½ years before we affiliated with the Board on March 1, 1931 for work with the Indian people. In cooperation with Christian, Hindu, Muslim and Parsee Indians we developed two new social work programs in Sholapur and Ahmednagar in western India. The sisal fiber industry which Edna started, which together with Indian colleagues we developed, still continues to provide work for 100 people throughout the year in the cottage industry and 500 more in the villages near Ahmednagar during the two months when no other work is available. During our last 6 years in India, we were in charge of a large social settlement in Bombay, the Nagpada Neighbourhood House, with a daily average of over 700 participants in the activities. And last, because it is incidental, I have traveled by airplane over 100,000 miles, by ship twice around the earth and in the last 11 years I have driven two English Fords 180,000 miles in the U.S.A. This life has given me a chance to visit all of the 50 states except Alaska and 21 countries - Canada, Mexico, Honduras, England, Scotland, France, Belgium, Holland, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, Greece, Israel, Egypt, Arabia, India, Ceylon, Malaya, China and Japan.

These 37 years have given us a most interesting career in the mission of the church at home and abroad, with remarkable and congenial colleagues and friends who are scattered all over the earth.

About April 1 I shall set out upon a four or five months tour of the U.S.A. in my almost new Volkswagon Campmobile that will take me to Washington, D.C.; to Williamsburg, Va.; through Appalachia, to Miami, Florida; to Shorter, Alabama; to Memphis, Tennessee; to my home state, Oklahoma for two or three weeks; to San Antonio, Texas and further west via the Grand Canyon and Indian Reservations; to Winslow and Phoenix, Arizona; to San Diego, California; then visits in Claremont, Lancaster, Fresno, Stockton, San Francisco with side trips to the great national parks, through Nevada, Utah, Idaho, Wyoming, South Dakota, and eastward as the spirit moves.

I expect to see all my relatives, many friends and places that previous travel schedules did not permit. This time I will have a tentative itinerary but no schedule to keep. My VW Campmobile provides me a house with bedroom and cafe on wheels so all that my hosts will need to provide is a piece of the good earth 6 by 15 feet on which to park. Edna spent three months on a flying tour around the world two years ago so she will not be making this trip with me.
--- Loy L. Long, 1830 Commonwealth Ave., Auburndale, Mass.

Chaplain at Kennedy Airport

The Board has just been informed that the Rev. H. Thomas Foley is the United Church of Christ chaplain located at the Protestant Chapel at J.F. Kennedy International Airport. Chaplain Foley is anxious to be of assistance to any UCBWM personnel using the airport and who may need information or help. He can be reached at: J.F.Kennedy International Airport, Jamaica, New York 11430 or by phone: 656-5693.

A Golden Anniversary

The Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Harold S. Matthews, China missionaries for 22 years, Secretary for the Board for China for 9 years and residents of Pilgrim Place for the past 7 years, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on December 22, 1967 at Decker Hall, Pilgrim Place, Calif. Over 260 friends attended, as well as all the members of the family with the exception of the Rev. Alden Matthews, his wife Derrith and their youngest daughter Ellen. They are missionaries in Japan.

(Cont'd on Page 12)

A S I A

New Operating Theater at Khariar Hospital

The most joyous event to report is the opening of the new operating theater and recovery room unit at the Evangelical Mission Hospital, Khariar, Kalahandi District, Orissa, India. We are very proud of this building which contains two operating theaters, one for major surgery and one for dirty surgery and plaster casts, with a scrubroom and instrument sterilizing room, a big corridor, surgeon's room, nurses' room, store room, and high pressure steam sterilizing. The building is constructed as solidly as we can manage and we have terrazzo flooring. Also we have a lot of new equipment and the main feature is the air-conditioning in the main theater. What this means I can tell you in a story that happened recently.

About six weeks ago one Sunday morning a patient was brought to us who had been attacked by a she bear. He had gotten too close to a field of sugarcane where the bear and two cubs were eating the sugarcane. The bear had attacked him. He was saved from death, but only after his whole face had been destroyed; the scalp torn away from his skull; his right arm fractured; and worst of all, he had a biggish hole in his chest. He was carried all the way to us more than twenty miles on a small bed. In every village and town through which he passed the people came and viewed him and told him "What a pity that you are not dead. You will never walk nor see again. Pray that you may die quickly."

When he finally reached us he was nearly dead from the effects of his open chest wound and blood loss. We took him to the new operating unit and started to work on him, first repairing his chest wound. After doing this and hooking him on to our good suction machine he recovered and his pulse came down and he could breath again. We then started on his face, putting the bones back into place, refixing his eyes to the reconstituted sockets, suturing his lip and nose and refixing the portions of his scalp that were not gone altogether. A labor that started at 9:00 a.m., finished at 5:30 p.m. In the old operating theater without air conditioning I do not know how we would have managed. After each hour I used to stop and drink a lot of water and still after long hours of surgery would come out exhausted. But now in the new air conditioned room I work comfortably the whole stretch and have no need to drink even once. I am sure it is of great benefit to the patient when the surgeon is reasonably comfortable while working. I am happy to say the patient is making good progress. His bones are setting, the chest and flesh wounds have healed, his right eye is again fully functional, although his left eye has gone, as there was not even a trace of lids left. The infection is clearing up and we soon will be able to start plastic surgery on his scalp.

--- Excerpts from a letter from Dr. and Mrs. J. Manfred Laun, India

New Opportunities

The report of the Rev. Charles P. Heineman on his well digging operations in South India, follows:

After many months of planning and anticipation, our equipment for developing water resources has come. One item of the unit is a "Halco Tiger" drilling rig which works by means of compressed air. It penetrates hard rock with a 4 to 4.5 inch diameter hole to depths of 200 feet, at a rate of 100 to 150 feet per day. As the air hammer batters its way down, comparable to the air drills you have seen used for breaking up pavement, but larger in size and power, the rat-a-tat-tat chews up the rock into dust and small chips which are at the same time blasted up and out of the hole by the compressed air. As soon as water is reached, it is flushed up like a fountain, giving at the same time an indication of the yield the well is likely to give. The second item is a Landrover which is a pickup truck for shuttling back and forth from the site of operations to carry pipes, materials and supplies, diesel fuel, personnel etc. It has a beautifully enclosed cab with canvas covered rear, with a smooth ride. It has a winch in front for pulling itself or another vehicle out of the mire, or for

hoisting operations. It also has a power takeoff which could power a pump or other machine. It is a four cylinder diesel engine. The third unit is a tractor-compressor, having an air compressor integrally mounted on the tractor, for generating air power to operair drills. Its main use will be to drill holes in rock for placing and blasting explosives, to excavate or deepen wells, or possibly for use in quarrying. The compressed air is carried by hose to the bottom of the well where the pneumatic drills work. We hope to get extension drills which would enable us to drill from the floor or bottom of existing wells to depths of 50 to 100 feet at least, tapping deeper water springs to supply the well. Wells here, incidentally, are usually 20 feet square and 30 to 40 feet deep. We are surrounded by good farmers and hope to make more water available to them and reinforce their efforts to raise more food for hungry India. Our drilling rig can also be used to drill bores from the surface for installing hand pumps, to provide a perennial supply of pure water for villages, homes and small establishments. It can also make exploratory bore to find out the availability of water before investing in the larger wells which are very expensive and might prove to be unyielding. We are in an area that is not assured of ground water, and much exploration work remains to be done. The rig also provides small chips as it drills, givdata of the various formations encountered, and the exact level of water sources. We also have a motorcycle for running errands economically, and without moving the larger equipment.

This equipment was made available by OXFAM (Oxford Committee for Famine Relief) and AFPRO (Action for Food Production). OXFAM is a solicing and fundorganization in England, eager to assist in the efforts to incrrase water resources and food production. AFPRO is an organization of funding or donor agencies from all over the world working with and assisting developmental agencies in India, coordinating efforts in food production through fertilizer importation and production, conservation of resources, seed certification and improvement, water resource development, sharing of technical information and experience, facilitating the importation duty-free of equipment for these purposes. There are similar units in various parts of India. Periodically we consult together.

I feel nearer to playing the technical cum Christian role in India I have dreamed of for so many years. It is exciting to be working in cooperation with so many different persons and groups, with Catholics and Protestants, people of all nationalities -- Swedish, English, Indian, etc. -- OXFAM and AFPRO, our Diocese and the UCBWM who have released me to do this work and to be working on a project so vital to the welfare of the nation - developing water resources. You too have a part as you contribute to the work of the UCBWM which is vitally interested in this AFPRO program and fully supportive and through your prayers and interest.

Serious Shortage of Missionary English Teachers

Churches in the West are failing to send English-teaching missionaries to Japan at the very time when the demand for them is at an all-time high, according to the editor of the Japan Christian Quarterly in the Fall issue. The issue is devoted largely to articles on English-teaching as a missionary vocation.

Editor Phillip Williams (UCBWM missionary) a professor of English literature at Tohoku Gakuin, Sendai, says that church-related schools, which have been pioneers in the teaching of English since the Meiji period, receive fewer and fewer missionaries although the requests for them keep rising. Mr. Williams declares that "a witness that has been vital to the Christian community in this country is being lost by default." He cites evidence of the surge of interest in learning English - the number of students enrolled in English classes; the fact that the "New Religions" are offering English classes; and the development of a plan to train 10,000 young Japanese mothers to teach Enclish to primary children. The Japan Christian Quarterly editor attributes the drop

in the number of English-teaching missionaries to the reduced budgets of Western churches, assignment procedures, and the appeal of "new ministries" over established fields of service. He voices the hope that "we are not yet inevitably driven to witness the death of the missionary English-teaching program in Japan."

Catholic-Protestant Cooperation Talks between Roman Catholic and Protestant churchmen, which began in January 1967 have reached the point of concrete plans for joint endeavors, according to announcements following a recent meeting of 15 representatives of the Catholic Commission on Ecumenicity, the National Catholic Committee, the National Christian Council and the United Church of Christ in Japan.

In 1968, the annual Japan Christian Yearbook, published since 1910 under the auspices of the National Christian Council, will be produced as a Protestant-Catholic effort.

A joint worship service was held January 21, 1968, at St. Ignatius Church, Tokyo, to mark the Week of Prayer for Church Unity. In preparation for it, Catholic and Protestant representatives prepared a single version of the Lord's Prayer that could be used by all participating in the service.

New Converts in Indonesia Strain Bible Society's Resources Indonesia is undergoing the greatest swing towards Christianity in its history, with more than 400,000 converts since 1965, Mr. P. J. Sigar, general secretary for the Indonesian Bible Society, reported.

The Christian "revolution" has raised the number of Christians to more than 10 million, he stated. There is a shortage of Bibles and other Scriptures. Church accommodations cannot cope with the increased number of communicants, and services are held in the open air.

Even though the population of Indonesia is 85 per cent Moslem, the government has resisted attempts to oppose the conversions, stating that religion is a matter of personal conscience.

NEAR EAST

Musical Treats at Tarsus Cooperation between Tarsus American College and the community took a new form last month when the school arranged to have the Istanbul Conservatory Orchestra tour the Tarsus region and give a concert for Tarsus College students. The students really appreciated the concert and the public seemed very pleased. Before the orchestra had left they had many offers from co-sponsors for a second concert. For the three or more teachers who had to give up Christmas vacation to make all arrangements, this seemed worthwhile enough that they say they will do it again. Hopefully this may be the beginning of an annual Fine Arts Series in a part of Turkey which has long been isolated from this.

November Careers Day All who have taught school will understand some of the satisfaction longtime missionaries in Izmir, Turkey, got from the November Careers Day program for 120 juniors and seniors of the American Collegiate Institute. All were impressed by the quality of these graduates who were invited to talk to the students: A graduate who has been working for 15 years as a translator; a doctor, married to a doctor, who has her own bio-chemical laboratory; a homemaker with three children; a graduate who started secretarial work in the school office, then went to the Aegean University, then to an FAO project nearby and now, much sought after is

working in the agency that sells Turkish-made automobiles; the teacher of art in the Izmir school who worked four years in the office until she secured her father's permission for further study and who graduated in June 1967 from the Istanbul School of Fine Arts; a graduate who has her master's degree in architecture from the Pratt Institute and is teaching in Ankara at the Middle East Technical University; a graduate who is working at the university as head of the Rehabilitation Service.

No graduates could attend to talk on Social Service and so the Izmir Superintendent of Health Services spoke. A woman who owns a local hotel spoke on hotel management and tourism; the only man speaker was in the field of journalism, a fairly new field for women.

It was an alumnae day for teachers also; the main speaker was Barbara Burns Helling, a short-term teacher from 1949-1952, who married a sociologist she met in Turkey when he was teaching at Tarsus College. Barbara got her doctorate in educational psychology based on home studies she made when she was living in a Turkish village with her husband who was doing his doctoral research in sociology. Mrs. Helling spoke on careers for women, emphasizing that all women have some sort of a career, but it is important to weave together the domestic, intellectual, service, and professional careers that are open and essential for all women of today.

Arabs to Get New Heavy-Duty Tents

Three thousand Arab refugees in the Jordan valley who now have to grip tent poles to keep their flimsy shelter intact when the wind blows, will soon be housed in durable, heavy-duty tents made in Karachi, Pakistan.

The 500 tents, each large enough to give shelter to six persons, were made for the World Council of Churches at an estimated cost of $35,000 and will be paid for from the WCC Appeal for $2 million on behalf of victims of the Arab-Israeli war.

The Jordanian Government has contributed $10,000 to the cost of the airlift from Pakistan to Jordan, accordint to WCC sources. In presenting a check, the Jordan Government's Minister of Labor and Social Welfare, Saleh Burqan thanked the Council for service to Jordanians, both before and after the June war.

By buying the tents in Pakistan, Council sources said: "A developing country in need of trade has also been helped."

About 55,000 refugees in the Jordan valley are presently living in tents. Early in the emergency, some contributed tents were those designed for holiday camping. These tents need to be replaced.

UNITED STATES (Continued)

Death of Former Colleague

Friends and former colleagues of Mr. Charles S. Scribner were shocked and saddened by the news of his death on Sunday, January 21, 1968 in Lawrence General Hospital, Lawrence, Massachusetts.

Mr. Scribner had been mail clerk for the UCBWM in its Boston office since 1958 until he moved down to the New York office five years ago to assume duties as buyer for the Administration Division at "475" which position he held until his retirement this past year. He was a member of Hope Congregational Church.

He is survived by a sister, Mrs. John Livoti of Lawrence and two nephews, Philip F. and John A. Lane, both of Lawrence.

Secretaries Appointed For Europe and Southern Asia

The Rev. Charles P. Blakney, a former UCBWM missionary to Rhodesia, was elected regional secretary for Europe by the UCBWM directors recently. Dr. Sydney K. Bunker, formerly missionary to Ceylon, was also elected associate Southern Asia secretary. Both men are now on their new jobs.

C H R O N I C L E

ARRIVALS FROM THE FIELD

JAPAN

Miss Esther L. Hibbard, Ph.D., professor of English Literature at Doshisha Women's College in Kyoto, for furlough in late January.

RHODESIA

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew L. Miller of Mt. Silinda, in early February, on the completion of a Short Term as teachers at Mt. Silinda Institute, Mr. Miller teaching courses in mathematics and science, Mrs. Miller in mathematics and English.

SOUTH AFRICA

Miss Carol A. Garn of Inanda Seminary, near Durban, in late December, on the completion of a Short Term as a teacher of mathematics and student counselor. For six months during this period she was the acting principal.

SOUTH INDIA

Miss Dorothy S. Hoath, S.R.N., S.R.M., nursing superintendent at the Christian Mission Hospital in Madurai City, in February, for furlough at her home in Melbourne, Australia.

TURKEY

Mr. and Mrs. George J. Privratsky of Gaziantep and their youngest son Scott, in mid-January, terminating their service with the Board as of March 15, 1968, after eight and one-half years of service in Gaziantep. Mr. Privratsky was the business manager of the Azariah Smith Memorial Hospital.

DEPARTURES FOR THE FIELD

CEYLON

Miss Dorothy G. Appleby, S.R.N., C.M.B., in early February from England, returning from furlough to the Medical Clinic in Murusumuttai to continue her pioneering medical services.

HONDURAS

The Rev. Gustav H. Kuether, field coordinator and treasurer in Honduras, Mrs. Kuether and their two children, in early February, following a two-month absence combining consultations at Board offices and vacation.

INDONESIA

The Rev. Verne H. Fletcher, Ph.D., professor of ethics and sociology at the United Theological College (Sekolah Tinggi Theologia) in Jogjakarta, in late January, returning from a shortened furlough due to a staffing emergency. Mrs. Fletcher and their children, now in Montpellier, France, will join him at the close of the school year.

RHODESIA

Mrs. George C. Grant of Salisbury, a full partner with Mr. Grant in various aspects of mission, ecumenical, and relief work among restrictees, in mid-February, joining Mr. Grant following a health furlough.

SOUTH AFRICA

The Rev. and Mrs. John T. Parsons of Durban and their two children, in late February, returning from furlough to a new assignment in Port Elizabeth with the Eastern Cape Regional Council of the United Congregational Church of South Africa.

DEPARTURE OF NEW APPOINTEES

JAPAN

Mr. David W. Wright of Providence, Rhode Island, in early January, for Short Term service as a teacher of English under the United Church of Christ in Japan, following language study in Tokyo.

SOUTH AFRICA

Dr. and Mrs. Kenton C. Lambert of Goderich, Ontario, and their five children, in mid-February, for Short Term service in general surgery at McCord Zulu Hospital in Durban at the invitation of the hospital.

Miss Carol J. Robinson of Delaware, Ohio, in early January, for Regular Term service as a teacher of mathematics at Inanda Seminary, near Durban.

BIRTH

The Rev. and Mrs. Valerius G. Schultz of Ijui, Brazil, welcomed into their home Philip George, born on December 1, 1967 in Fargo, North Dakota.

MARRIAGE

On January 27, 1968 in Tucson, Arizona, Cynthia Ann Matthews, daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. Alden E. Matthews of Tokyo, Japan, and Martin Lasiter, both of the University of Arizona. In the absence of the bride's parents the wedding dinner was given at the University Faculty Club by her aunt, Mrs. Kenneth L. Keating, and Dr. Keating, professor of metallurgy at the University School of Mines.

DEATHS

Mrs. Winfield Q. Swart (Lois Andrews)
Marathi Mission, W. India 1926-1967, 41 years
Died: December 14, 1967, Vadala, India Aged 68

Daughter of missionaries of the Christian and Missionary Alliance Society, Lois Andrews Swart was born in Ahmedabad, India, received her pre-college education there, she was married in India to the Reverend Winfield Q. Swart in 1928, their three children were born in India, and following four decades of service in that land, her "great adventure" came to a close at their home in Vadala on Indian soil, as she wished it. An Indian colleague wrote of her: "She was more Indian than American in thought, word and deed. India and her people were foremost in her thought and service." Lois Swart spoke Marathi fluently and had a special interest in Indian art.

With a B.A. from Occidental College in California, an M.A. in education from the University of Chicago and studies at Teachers College, Columbia, Lois Swart's primary contribution was to the Mission's educational program, but she was also concerned with its social and evangelistic outreach. In Ahmednagar for seventeen years, where Mr. Swart was principal of the Boys' High School, she assisted in the school program, introduced balanced diets for the boarding students, and organized a Christian women's association. While he was engaged in district evangelism and administrative work in Rahuri, in the Supa-Ahmednagar and Rahuri-Vadala districts, she worked with women's groups, helped in the schools, and was for a year principal of the Pierce Memorial School in Rahuri. In Vadala, she was acting headmistress for a year of the new Vadala Mission Rural High School, and manager of the Agricultural Bias Primary School, with charge of the boys' boarding section, both now under Indian leadership. Her counsel was sought in the work of many committees. Her last major contribution before her illness was the preparation of material for the Mission's 150th anniversary.

DEATHS (cont'd)

On September 1, 1967 Mr. and Mrs. Swart were made missionaries emeriti, but remained on the field. Three and one-half months later, on December 14, her release came peacefully. Upon word of it, hundreds and hundreds of people came in a steady stream to pay their personal tribute. There was continuous singing of the lovely Bhajans (Marathi hymns) "with their note of a joyousness that made one think of the thread of gold that weavers weave into our most exquisite saris." "There seemed to be some special sense in which she belonged to them," wrote Mr. Swart. The next day several of her colleagues took part in a service of thanksgiving. Local people, representatives from all the mission stations, people from surrounding villages, and many Hindus filled the Vadala church to overflowing as an expression of deep affection and appreciation of Jack and Lois Swart. It was a moving testimony to their Christian witness and commitment.

Miss Kate Ingeborg Hansen, Mus. D.
Japan 1906-1952, 46 years
Died: January 4, 1968, Norton, Kansas (near Logan) Aged 88

Daughter of pioneers, Kate Hansen was born in 1879 in Logan, Kansas. Her father, a Dane, was one of the founders of Logan; her mother, of British Colonial stock, one of its first school teachers. After a lifetime of distinguished service in Japan promoting women's education in general, and music education in particular at Miyagi College for Women in Sendai, she returned home to Logan for the remainder of her days.

A valedictorian at Beloit high school, a PBK from the University of Kansas (B.A.1905), the rest of her professional training was devoted to her specialty in occidental music. She secured her bachelor's degree in music from the Juilliard School of Music in New York City in 1913, her doctorate in 1930 from the Chicago Conservatory of Music, with honors in counterpoint and composition. Research in music was a continuing process at the School of Sacred Music at Union and elsewhere.

Dr. Hansen began her service in Sendai at the Miyagi Girls' High School, but after the college division was organized, she taught at the college level only, with some supervision of music teaching in the high school. In the course of the years she developed the Conservatory of Music at Miyagi, one of three recognized UCBWM-related music schools of this grade in Japan, and served as its dean for many years. Besides her teaching and training of teachers, she composed vocal and instrumental music for solo and ensemble work. An early book of Hymns and Anthems for Women's Voices collected and arranged by her, was published in 1918, and has been widely used. The war years found Dr. Hansen lecturing across the country and researching in music as related to religion. In post-war Japan she gave much time to relief and reconstruction work. Miyagi College alone had lost seven buildings.

Upon retirement from Miyagi, the Fourth Order of the Sacred Treasure was conferred upon her by the government in recognition of her outstanding work in women's education. In the fall of 1961, during her attendance at the 75th anniversary celebrations of Miyagi College, the Empress received her in audience at the palace. In 1955 she was one of the recipients of the distinguished service award from the University of Kansas.

In high schools all over Japan today Dr. Hansen's students are passing on the musical knowledge she bequeathed to them together with her love of beauty and harmony in all of life.

Mrs. George M. Newell (Mary Reynolds)
North China and Foochow Missions 1904-1942, 38 years
Died: January 20, 1968, Middleboro, Massachusetts Aged 90

It is not often that an Iowa-born girl finds herself teaching in a Chinese palace, but it happened to Mary Reynolds Newell. She went to China under the auspices of the United States government and Carleton College, her alma mater, in response to a request from the Empress Dowager for a teacher for the children at the royal palace in Peking. Due to the tense situation of the times, however, this assignment was brief. She then taught English at the North China Union Woman's College in Peking until her marriage there in 1906 to George Merriam Newell of the Foochow Mission. Both had sailed for China on the same date in 1904 but to different areas.

With Mr. Newell in Foochow from then on, they were associated with Union High School (for boys) and Foochow College. Mr. Newell taught at both, he was in charge of Union High for a time, and also supervised mission day schools. Within this educational framework for boys, Mary Newell organized a social service center known as "The House by the Side of the Road," where the women and girls of the community had fellowship and were trained in knitting and other household skills. The Newells lived through periods of widespread violence and distress, but in her hospitable home people from all walks of life found the true meaning of peace and friendship. Four children were born to them; the two older ones died in childhood.

Retiring from active service in 1942, the Newells spent some years at Penney Farms, Florida, where Mr. Newell died in 1956. His home and close ties had been in Uxbridge, Massachusetts, where, at a later date, a memorial service will be held for Mrs. Newell at the Congregational Church.

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